

THE NEWS OF BROOKLYN

TO BE A DAY OF SPORTS.

NO PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF THE FOURTH BY THE CITY.

THE UNVEILING OF THE WARREN MONUMENT AND THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE OF THE BAY RIDGE FREE LIBRARY TO BE THE PRINCIPAL AFFAIRS—PROGRAMME ARRANGED.

This is Independence Day, and it will be duly celebrated in this city from the shores of Newtown Creek to the Narrows, and from the East River to Coney's Isle. People differ widely as to the proper celebration of the day. The omnipresent small boy believes that an abundance of firecrackers and noise are indispensable to the glory of the occasion. His sedate elders either stuff cotton into their ears and stolidly prepare for the worst or fly the city.

Thousands who do not belong to either category will seek amusement in other ways. The youthful baseball enthusiasts will flock to Prospect Park Parade Grounds, to the vacant lots of Institute Park, to the wilds adjoining Buffalo Bill's old circus ground, near the Thirtieth-st. ferry, or to the Twelfth Ward fairs. Third-ave. and Third-st. is a favorite haught for South Brooklyn. In all of these places from early morning until darkness closes the games will hold full sway.

For some years the city's finances have been too low to permit of fireworks on July 4. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were squandered by the Democrats on schemes that were a disgrace to their promoters, and to retrench it was necessary that something should go. The Fourth of July fireworks was one of the luxuries dispensed with.

Apart from any public demonstration, the unveiling of the General G. K. Warren statue will be the most important occasion of the day. Next to this in importance will come the laying of the cornerstone of the Bay Ridge Free Library at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Although the city cannot afford to salute the glorious Fourth, Stephens Post, No. 633, G. A. R., will fire a salute of 100 guns at sunrise at Fort Greene.

In the different parks there will be concerts in the afternoon.

There will be sports galore on land and water to celebrate the day. The yachtsmen will be out in full force, and if the day be favorable white wings will be in evidence from Bay Ridge to Rockaway.

In the Upper Bay the oarsmen will take advantage of the day, should the water be favorable. The regattas of the Larchmont and Seawanhaka clubs will attract thousands of visitors. Jamaica Bay will be the scene of the regatta of the Canarsie Yacht Club. In the still water of Thirty-fourth-st. the miniature boats of the American Model Yacht Club and the Wave Crest Miniature Yacht Club will do battle for the perpetual challenge trophy.

The Brooklyn Athletic Club will hold a series of athletic sports and have a good time generally at Montevideo Park, Maspeth, Long Island.

The wheelmen will be out in full force, and most of them will make long runs. The Good Roads Association will hold a special twenty-five-mile road race over the Valley Stream turnpike, and there will be a number of races on the Flushing track.

There will also be cricket at the Crescent Club grounds. At Cedarhurst, Long Island, there will be a spirited game of polo between the Rockaway and Cedarhurst clubs.

At a full schedule of the sporting events that will take thousands of people out of the city to-day:

HASBELL.

Brooklyn vs. Hempstead, at Eastern Park, 10:30 a. m. and 3 p. m.
Sylvia vs. Hampton Athletic Club, at Hempstead, Long Island, 10:30 a. m. and 3 p. m.

YACHTING.

Regatta of Larchmont Yacht Club, Larchmont, N. Y. Club races for Sherman Club, Seawanhaka-Guthrie Yacht Club, Rockaway Bay, Long Island.
Regatta of Canarsie Yacht Club, Jamaica Bay, Long Island.
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CRICKET.

Open trial match, Flushing (L. I.) bridge track.
Dutchess vs. Westchester, at Dutchess, Dutchess Co., N. Y.
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BASEBALL.

Brooklyn vs. Manhattan, at Manhattan, at Prospect Park, 3 p. m.
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A DOUBLE ANNIVERSARY.

HOW LIEUTENANT MOORE WILL CELEBRATE THE FOURTH.

THE ROLLS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY FOR EIGHTY-FOUR YEARS.

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BROOKLYN'S LARGEST PARK.

THE NEW PLAYGROUND FOR THE PEOPLE IN QUEENS COUNTY.

SOME OF THE FEATURES WHICH MAKE FOREST PARK ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SPOTS THAT CAN BE FOUND—A DIAGRAM OF THE PLACE.

Comparatively few Brooklynites are aware that Brooklyn now possesses a park that is larger than Prospect Park. Forest Park, the magnificent stretch of land on the Queens County highland, to which Park Commissioner Woodruff is putting the finishing touches, contains sixty more acres than does Brooklyn's older "breathing spot," and is unsurpassed in natural endowments by any of the parks of the Greater New York. Prospect Park has 516 acres, while its Queens County rival contains nearly 570 acres.

Any one who has ever travelled over the Jamaica Plank Road by trolley, bicycle, carriage or otherwise has been struck by the natural beauties of the long ridge north of the road and parallel with it. This ridge has been appropriately named the "Backbone of Long Island." It is covered, except in spots that were cleared by the ubiquitous land speculator, with the forest primeval. Varied and beautiful are the trees that shade its crest.

As Brooklyn taxpayers remember to their sorrow, the old Democratic ring had a passion for park buying and park building, but especially for park buying. So pleased were they with the good things connected with the purchase of the Twelfth Ward and other parks that they had a Democratic Legislature pass a law which permitted the Park Commissioner to spend several million dollars in parks. This law provided for buying the Dyker Meadow Park, and authorized the purchase of land within Kings County or "adjacent to Kings County" for a large park. Then came the people and swept the old ring out of office.

When Park Commissioner Squier began looking around to fulfill the purposes of this law, the pre-eminent fitness of the "Backbone of Long Island" for the purposes of a park struck him at once. He thought, as many had thought before him, that the turning of these beautifully wooded heights over to the ruthless purposes of the real estate dealer would be a crime. Being by all odds the most desirable of all the land "adjacent to Kings County" which the law permitted him to buy, Commissioner Squier lost no time in beginning the purchase.

NEARLY ALL OF THE LAND ACQUIRED.

All the property has now been bought, except a few scattered lots, which are being held "hold-up" prices. The total cost has been \$1,300,000. Impartial real estate experts are of the opinion that this property was secured at a remarkably low figure. If it had not been for the panic and hard times there is no question that the land would have cost the city in the neighborhood of \$5,000,000. When the Prospect Park site was bought, from 1862 to 1865, it was further out of the city than Forest Park is now. Yet the land of Prospect Park cost for prices ranging from \$500 to \$2,300 an acre. The latter price was paid for improved property and for the lots bordering in Myrtle-ave. The failure of a suit based upon the allegation that an exorbitant price was paid for some of the property is still fresh in the public mind.

The Tribune gives on this page the first diagram of Forest Park ever published. The park is two and a half miles long, and varies in width from 1,000 feet at the middle, where it lies on three sides of the Woodhaven water supply property, to one-half mile in other parts. Its westerly line is the easterly boundary of Cypress Hills Cemetery. Thence the park extends northeasterly, its northeasterly line being Union Turnpike and its easterly line the village line of Richmond Hill. The dividing line between the towns of Jamaica and Newtown runs through the southerly part of the park.

The entrance to the park from the Jamaica Plank Road is situated four blocks east of Eldert-ave, and is to be constructed on land just acquired. The work on this entrance is to be finished on or before October 1. The Myrtle-ave entrance is situated one hundred or more feet east of Cypress Hills. Myrtle-ave is the northern boundary of the park, until the New York and Rockaway Beach road is reached, when the avenue enters and crosses the park. The road-way and its easterly line the village line of Richmond Hill. The dividing line between the towns of Jamaica and Newtown runs through the southerly part of the park.

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